



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/511,849	11/17/2004	Mikael Jaatinen	2493-21	6264
23117 7590 06/08/2009 NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203				
EXAMINER				
NICKERSON, JEFFREY L				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2442				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/08/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/511,849

Applicant(s)

JAATINEN, MIKAEL

Examiner

JEFFREY NICKERSON

Art Unit

2442

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 March 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI/02)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Application No. 10/511,849 filed nationally on 17 November 2004 and internationally on 28 February 2003. The request for continued examination presented on 27 March 2009, which adds claims 29-31, is hereby acknowledged. Claims 1-31 have been examined.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 24 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 for a minor grammatical error.

Regarding claim 24, this claim is not a complete sentence. For purposes of further examination the ending phrase will read "for a time period."

3. Claim 29 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) because of an improper use of antecedent basis.

Regarding claim 29, this claim contains the phrase "a temporary SIP address". There *is sufficient* antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim and, for purposes of further examination, the examiner will consider the phrase to be "the anonymous temporary SIP address".

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-31 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection, which may appear below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-2, 5-6, 11-14, 17-18, 23-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jain et al (US 7,020,256 B2), and in further view of Handley et al ("SIP: Session Initiation Protocol", RFC 2543, March 1999).

Regarding claim 1, Jain teaches a method for providing a subscriber with an anonymous subscriber identity, for use in a communications network having an originating party A and a terminating party B connected to the network (Jain: abstract; Figure 1), the method comprising:

the terminating party B requesting a temporary address to be used as an anonymous subscriber identity from a dual anonymity server (Jain: Figure 1, step 2; abstract; col 3, line 19 – col 4, line 20);

the network reserving an anonymous temporary address and associating the temporary address with a regular subscriber identity of the terminating party B (Jain: Figure 1, step 3; abstract; col 3, line 19 – col 4, line 20);

the dual anonymity server providing the anonymous temporary address to the terminating party B (Jain: Figure 1, step 4; abstract; col 3, line 19 – col 4, line 20);

the terminating party B announcing the received anonymous temporary address in an open forum to multiple parties in the open forum in addition to the originating party A and the terminating party B (Jain: col 1, lines 20-38; Figure 1, step 7; col 3, line 19 – col 4, line 20);

the originating party A initiating via the dual anonymity server an anonymous communication path towards the anonymous temporary address of the terminating party B (Jain: Figure 2, step 1; col 4, line 21 – col 5, line 14);

the originating party A suppressing a subscriber identity of the originating party A in the communication path set up (Jain: Figure 3, steps 1-6; col 5, lines 15-35 provides that both parties may have a temporary dynamic number);

the communications network establishing the anonymous communication path between the originating party A and the terminating party B for anonymous communication using a bearer available in the communications network (Jain: col 5, lines 49-67 provide for using the bearer channel in any resident network), and using the regular subscriber identity of the terminating party B associated with the anonymous address (Jain: Figure 3, steps 2-6 for originating alias; Figure 2, steps 1-6 for terminating alias; col 4, line 21 – col 5, line 35); and

wherein the communications uses SIP (Jain: col 5, lines 36-48); and
wherein the networking infrastructure is packet based (Jain: col 5, lines 49-61;
col 9, lines 13-32).

Jain does not explicitly teach wherein the addresses are SIP addresses; or
wherein the communications network is an IP communications network.

Handley, in a similar field of endeavor, teaches wherein the addresses are SIP
addresses (Handley: pg 12, section 1.4.1); and

wherein the communications network is an IP communications network (Handley:
pg 13, section 1.4.2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the
invention was made to utilize the teachings of Handley for using standardized SIP
communications and IP networks. The teachings of Handley, when implemented in the
Jain system, will allow one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize known protocols for setting
up anonymous communication sessions. One of ordinary skill in the art would be
motivated to utilize the teachings of Handley in the Jain system in order to enable
practicing anonymous communications in a SIP environment.

Regarding claim 2, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the terminating party B
requests the anonymous temporary SIP address via Internet (Handley: abstract).

Regarding claim 5, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the terminating party B requests the anonymous temporary SIP address by dialing a number in the IP communications network (Jain: col 6, lines 40-55).

Regarding claim 6, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the terminating party B requests the anonymous temporary SIP address via an email-interface (Jain: col 6, lines 1-37 for communication interface to request anonymous address; col 4, lines 1-7 for wherein communication interface is email).

Regarding claim 11, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the terminating party B terminates the anonymous temporary SIP address (Jain: col 3, lines 52-65 provides requesting user may specify lifetime).

Regarding claim 12, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the use of the anonymous temporary SIP address is disabled for a time period (Jain: col 3, lines 52-65 provides for disabling during time frames).

Regarding claim 25, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the IP communications network reserves the anonymous temporary SIP address and associates the temporary SIP address with the regular subscriber identity of the terminating party B using a SIP REGISTER message (Jain: col 6, lines 1-37 for using available communication

interfaces for request; Handley: pg 31, section 4.2.6 for available comm. interface being SIP REGISTER).

Regarding claim 27, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the dual anonymity server replaces the anonymous temporary SIP address with the terminating party B's regular subscriber identity (Jain: Figure 2, steps 3-6; col 4, lines 21-50).

Regarding claim 31, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the anonymous subscriber identity means that parties involved in the communication are not informed or enabled as a result of anonymous communication to know the real identity of each other including not knowing each other's name (Jain: col 1, line 20 – col 2, line 10 provides for caller ID blocking).

Regarding claim 13, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 1 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Regarding claim 14, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 2 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Regarding claim 17, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 5 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Regarding claim 18, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 6 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Regarding claim 23, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 11 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Regarding claim 24, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 12 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Regarding claim 26, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 25 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Regarding claim 28, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 27 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Regarding claim 29, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 12 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Regarding claim 30, this arrangement claim contains limitations found within that of claim 31 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

7. Claims 3-4, 7-10, 15-16, and 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jain et al (US 7,020,256 B2), in view of Handley et al ("SIP: Session Initiation Protocol", RFC 2543, March 1999), and in further view of Official Notice.

Regarding claims 3-4 and 8, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the terminating party B requests the anonymous temporary SIP address via an available communication interface (Jain: col 6, lines 1-37) and announces the temporary SIP address via a public communication interface (Jain: col 1, lines 20 – col 2, line 28).

The Jain/Handley system does not teach wherein the communication interface is an SMS-interface, a WAP-interface, or television signals.

An official notice is taken that such use of SMS, WAP, and television signals as a form of a communication interface was well known in the art at the time the invention was made by one of ordinary skill in the art.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize these known teachings for using an SMS, WAP, or TV interface as a communication interface. These known teachings, when implemented in the Jain/Handley system, will allow one of ordinary skill in the art to communicate with other devices on the network using SMS, WAP, or TV signals. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to utilize these known teachings in the Jain/Handley system in order to enable practicing the system in an environment supporting SMS, WAP, or TV.

Regarding claim 7, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the terminating party B requests an anonymous temporary SIP address (Jain: col 6, lines 1-37).

The Jain/Handley system does not teach wherein the request is for several anonymous temporary SIP addresses.

An official notice is taken that such use of many-to-one mappings as a form of address alias mappings was well known in the art at the time the invention was made by one of ordinary skill in the art.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize these known teachings for using many-to-one address mappings. These known teachings, when implemented in the Jain/Handley system, will allow one of ordinary skill in the art to request more than one anonymous temporary SIP address. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to utilize these known teachings in the Jain/Handley system in order to provide support for user demands.

Regarding claims 9-10, the Jain/Handley system teaches wherein the terminating party B announces the anonymous temporary SIP address in an open forum (Jain: col 1, lines 20 – col 2, line 28).

The Jain/Handley system does not teach wherein the open forum is a restricted open forum that includes the dual anonymity server.

An official notice is taken that such use of restricting access to forums and utilizing any available device for maintaining a forum as a forms of forum management

were well known in the art at the time the invention was made by one of ordinary skill in the art.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize these known teachings for using restricted forums and available devices for maintaining a forum. These known teachings, when implemented in the Jain/Handley system, will allow one of ordinary skill in the art to restrict who has access to certain open forums and to allow the dual anonymity server to act as a chat server. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to utilize these known teachings in the Jain/Handley system in order to enable management and control of an anonymous meet and greet environment.

Regarding claims 15-16 and 19-22, these arrangement claims contains limitations found within those of claims 3-4 and 7-10 and the same rationale of rejection is used, where applicable.

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
- a. Bedingfield et al (US 6,608,888 B2) discloses a system with anonymous messaging by utilizing identity suppression.
 - b. Brockenbrough et al (US 6,744,869 B2) discloses a system with anonymous communications by utilizing non-reversible token aliasing.
 - c. Haran (US 2003/0012355 A1; US 6,731,733 B2) discloses a system for anonymous communication using one-way encoded aliasing of addresses.
 - d. Lagadec et al (US 2005/0025300 A1) discloses an anonymous communication system with real identity address suppression and replacement.
 - e. Liu et al (US 7,099,304 B2) discloses an anonymous communication system by using a third-party provided relationship identifier to replace individual addresses.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEFFREY NICKERSON whose telephone number is (571)270-3631. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 9:00am - 7:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on (571)272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. N./
Jeffrey Nickerson
Examiner, Art Unit 2442

/Andrew Caldwell/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 2442